Investment in VSP

8441. SHRI T. VENKATRAM REDDY:
SHRI G. PRATHAPA REDDY:

Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the investment in Visakhapatnam Steel Plant has proved less than productive and profitable;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the plant is already using outdated steel making machinery; and

(c) if so, what steps are proposed to reassess the investments made?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) No, Sir. In all capital intensive industries due to normal long gestation periods, cumulative losses do occur which are recovered over a period of time. The Company has made a cash profit of Rs. 55 crores (provisional) during the year 1994-95 i.e. the third year of integrated operation and is expected to make a net profit by 1997-98.

(b) and (c) No, Sir. VSP has implemented the State-of-the-Art technology in steel making and it has all the latest contemporary technologies installed.

Transfer of manpower to steel companies

8442. SHRI GUNDAPPA KORWAR: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have advised steel companies to transfer excess manpower from one steel company to another;

(b) if so, the reaction of steel companies thereto;

(c) whether steel companies have identified their respective labour compositions; and

(d) if so, the details of surplus and the deficits of labour in each public sector steel undertaking respectively?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) Government have not advised steel producing companies to transfer excess manpower from one steel company to another.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) Visakhapatnam Steel Plant does not have surplus manpower. Considering international norms and labour productivity of steel industry in developed countries, Steel Authority of India Limited does not have surplus manpower. However, exact number and composition of surplus manpower would depend on work practices, process, technology and Annual Production Plan, etc. Rationalisation of manpower utilisation through proper planning, retraining of existing manpower and their redeployment in new areas of requirement due to modernisation, etc. have been taken up. Effort has also been made to achieve higher production without adding manpower so as to improve productivity.

Awards of contracts by CPWD

8443. SHRI RAJ NATH SINGH: Will the Minister of URBAN AFFAIRS & EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of contracts which have been awarded by the CPWD, Sriniwas Puri, R. K. Puram sectorwise and Albert Square, New Delhi from April, 1994 to March, 1995, centre-wise;

(b) what is the nature of work assigned alongwith the amount allocated, work-wise;

(c) what is the maximum time limit fixed for completion of works;

(d) what are the details of work pending completion and for how long, work-wise;

(e) what is the status of the officer who finally undertakes the inspection of the work done by the contractors and thereafter passes the amount for final payment to the contractors; and

(f) what action Government propose to take against the CPWD officers/contractors responsible for delayed completion of work?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI P. K. THUNGON): (a) A total 509 contract have been awarded from April, 1994 to March, 1995. Areawise details are given below:—

Shri Jiwan Puri	43
R.K. Puram Sector	32
Sec. II	29
Sec. III	43
Sec. IV	39
Sec. V	48
[illegible]	43
Sec. VIII	48
Sec. IX	30
Sec. XII	76
Sec. XIII	41
[illegible]	17
TOTAL :	509

(b) The nature of work assigned relate to maintenance works including minor works special repairs, annual repairs and permissible works of addition/alteration/replacement etc. The total amount involved in all the 509 contracts is Rs. 3.18 crores.

(c) The time for completion depends on the nature and volume of work involved and varies from one month to one year depending on the work.

(d) 60 works are pending completion. These include also works, which have not been started and works for which contract had been rescinded due to non-start of work. There has been no abnormal delay in completion of work after it had started.

(e) Inspection is done by Executive Engineers and Assistant Engineers. However, the bills are finally passed by Executive Engineer for payment.

(f) Where delay in execution/completion of any work is noticed action against the contractors is setting up of a freedom fighter's contract.

Allotment of land to freedom fighters

8444. SHRI RAJ NATH SINGH: Will the Minister of URBAN AFFAIRS & EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that land has been allotted to freedom fighters at Neb Serai, New Delhi for setting up of a freedom fighter's colony;

(b) if so, the number of freedom fighters who have been allotted land at Neb Serai so far; and

(c) whether it is also a fact that land has been allotted to persons other than freedom fighters at Neb Serai: if so, the reasons and criteria therefor, the names and addresses of such persons together with the area and price of land allotted to each of them?